

APPENDIX B

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM RESOURCES IN RHODE ISLAND

Public Libraries: Rhode Islanders are served by 48 public libraries 24 branches, and 2 bookmobiles. Nine of the 39 cities and towns have more than one independent public library with separate boards. All of the public libraries, with the exception of one – a small and still developing neighborhood library – are members of the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN). (See also “Resource Sharing Networks/CLAN”, Appendix B-2)

Minimum Public Library Standards established by OLIS in 1983 were revised in 2000 with an effective date of July 1, 2003. By meeting these, public libraries qualify for state grant-in-aid funding. All but the smallest public libraries receive an annual state grant-in-aid as a supplement to municipal funding, which provides the lion’s share of public library support. Public libraries are also eligible for state construction funding. (See also “Major State Funding For RI Libraries”, Appendix B-4)

Academic Libraries: Rhode Island has 11 colleges and universities. The majority of the library holdings of these institutions can be found in the Higher Education Library Network (HELIN) database, which represents the collections of nine colleges and universities. (See also “Resource Sharing Networks/HELIN”, Appendix B-3)

Each of the academic libraries also is a member of the Consortium of Rhode Island Academic and Research Libraries (CRIARL), a voluntary organization existing to promote cooperation and communication among its members.

School Libraries: Rhode Island has approximately 428 schools, including approximately 314 public schools. The most recent figures from the National Center for Education Statistics (*School Library Media Centers, 1993-1994*) indicate that there are 278 public school library media centers. School libraries also can join the Rhode Island Library Information Network for Kids (RILINK). (See also, Resource Sharing Networks/RILINK, Appendix B-3). Most school librarians belong to the Rhode Island Educational Media Association (RIEMA).

Special Libraries: There are approximately 45 special libraries in Rhode Island, including legal, religious, historical society, and government libraries. Many special librarians belong to the Special Libraries Association, Rhode Island Chapter.

Health Sciences and Hospital Libraries: There are approximately 16 Rhode Island health sciences libraries, hospital and academic libraries, that support the health information needs of physicians, nurses, researchers, and health administrators. Health sciences libraries have increasingly expanded their patron base to offer consumer health information and Internet training to the general public. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM), a division of the National Library of Medicine, has established a network in order to support the training and development of medical librarians and health professionals. The network also supports the electronic infrastructure established for the rapid delivery of health information. The regional office for the NNLM is located at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and also offers health information training to public librarians in a six state region. Most health sciences librarians belong to the Association of RI Health Sciences Libraries (ARIHSL).

Institutional Libraries: Seven institutional libraries serve the State's incarcerated adults and youth, staff and patients at the State's hospital, staff and students at the RI School for the Deaf, and residents of the RI Veterans Home. Each of these libraries receives state funding in accordance with state law. (See also, "Major State Funding for RI Libraries/Institutional Library, Appendix B-5)

Museums: The 2002 *Rhode Island Visitors Guide* lists 29 unique museums located throughout the State including a children's museum in Providence. In addition, the Heritage Harbor Museum, which is collaborating with the Smithsonian Institution and 19 multicultural organizations, is scheduled to open in 2004.

Archives: In addition to the holdings of the RI State Archives and Public Records Administration, archival collections abound in Rhode Island's historical societies (over 80) and libraries. Chief among these are the Rhode Island Historical Society's Library of Rhode Island History, the Culinary Archives and Museum at Johnson and Wales University, the Newport Historical Society and Museum, the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, Brown University's John Hay Library, and the libraries of Rhode Island College, Providence College, and the University of Rhode Island.

RESOURCE SHARING NETWORKS

LORI: Established by the RI General Assembly in 1989 as the Rhode Island Library Network, the Library of Rhode Island (LORI) is the state multi-type virtual network comprising over 160 libraries. Administered and funded by the RI Office of Library and Information Services, LORI provides members with extensive statewide services including an interlibrary loan clearinghouse; statewide delivery of interlibrary loan materials for libraries, primarily for the CLAN, HELIN and RILINK networks; librarian access to FirstSearch databases, LSTA sub-grants, and access to the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC) at the Providence Public Library. The statewide library delivery service, administered and funded by OLIS, is the most prized of benefits for LORI libraries.

All the public libraries are members of LORI. All of the academic libraries are also members of LORI, and participate in statewide delivery, making their collections available to all Rhode Islanders via interlibrary loan. School libraries, both public and private, are eligible to be members of LORI and to participate in the delivery service. Currently there are 47 school members, 29 of which receive delivery. Special libraries are also eligible to be members of LORI. Currently there are 18 special library members; 15 receive delivery. The five institutional libraries are members of LORI and all receive delivery.

CLAN: The Cooperating Library Automated Network is the automated resource-sharing network established for RI's public libraries. It is linked through a statewide communications network and an Epixtech, Inc. automated library system. CLAN provides high-speed Internet access to all member libraries; offers access to 4.1 million items owned by the 48 member libraries; circulates over 6.3 million items per year; has over 450,000 registered library card holders; and, handles approximately 1.5 million interlibrary loans annually. As of 2000, greater than 99% of RI residents have access to a CLAN library in their own communities. The CLAN database contains well over 90% of the state's public library holdings. The CLAN borrower's card serves as the statewide library card for Rhode Islanders.

The Providence Public Library is the host site of the CLAN system. CLAN is governed by a Membership Committee made up of one representative of each of its library members who elect a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and representatives of each of the four geographical areas of the state.

HELIN: The Higher Education Library Information Network provides online access to the library collections of RI's colleges and universities whose combined holdings exceed 2 million volumes. Users of the HELIN system participate in unmediated, patron initiated, online interlibrary loan service for books. HELIN is governed by a Management Committee made up of the chief librarians of the member institutions. Its host site is the University of RI.

Formerly 8 members with combined holdings of more than 2 million volumes, HELIN marked its ninth member with the addition of the Brown University Library in May, 2002. When Brown's participation is fully implemented, as is anticipated by September 2002, the scope of library materials available to students enrolled at most of the state's colleges and universities will double.

RILINK: The Rhode Island Library Information Network for Kids (RILINK) is an interactive, web-based union catalog of Rhode Island school library materials. The purpose of the union catalog is to facilitate resource sharing among member libraries. The union catalog software indicates the shelf availability of items in member libraries and provides for interactive interlibrary loans (ILL).

Currently there are 25 RILINK member libraries providing their 25,000 students and teachers access to over 300,000 books and materials.

At least one library media specialist who has signed the Member Agreement from each of the RILINK schools serves on the RILINK Governing Board: This includes Regional Collaboratives and public, parochial, and independent schools.

LIBRARY SCHOOL

University of RI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies: The Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS) offers a program leading to the degree of Master of Library and Information Studies. The MLIS program is accredited by the American Library Association, and its school library media track is accredited by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Certification (NASDTC) and the National Association for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

In addition to delivering courses at the Kingston and Providence campuses of the University of Rhode Island, GSLIS also offers courses at the University of Massachusetts (both Amherst and Boston campuses) and at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. The School currently has over 200 matriculated students in the master's program, nine tenured/tenure-track faculty, and 31 adjunct faculty members.

OTHER STATEWIDE SERVICE PROVIDERS

Statewide Reference Resource Center: In accordance with state law, the Providence Public Library is designated as the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC). This reference and interlibrary loan service program is State-funded via OLIS. The goal of the program is to provide quality reference services to all member libraries of LORI and to all residents of Rhode Island. As SRRC, the Providence Public Library handles reference questions received from libraries and from RI residents via phone, fax, e-mail, and in-person; provides online library and remote access to full-text and other databases, and sponsors continuing education programs and workshops designed to inform Rhode Island library staff of the special resources and services of the library and to provide them with the skills needed to use these.

Talking Books Plus : Talking Books Plus (TBP), part of the Office of Library and Information Services, serves as the RI Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. It is part of the National Library Service (Library of Congress) national network. Its mission is to provide a public library collection for its customers who meet the standards of NLS for application for free service. Books and magazines in cassette format as well as play-back machines are provided directly by TBP.

Braille materials are available through an agreement with the Perkins Institute (Massachusetts Regional Library for the Blind), large print materials are provided to eligible homebound individuals through the Fuller Branch of the East Providence Public Library and descriptive videos are provided to eligible individuals through the Lincoln Public Library. A contract with TechACCESS of Rhode Island, which provides assistive technology information and services to Rhode Islanders, has aided OLIS in providing information valuable to libraries and residents.

MAJOR STATE FUNDING FOR RHODE ISLAND LIBRARIES

The State of Rhode Island provides exceptional funding benefits to public libraries through a number of mechanisms, based on the requirement for support stated in Article XII of the Rhode Island Constitution and RI General Laws 29-6 as noted below:

STATE AID TO LIBRARIES

29-6-2. Public library services. – For each city or town, the state's share to support local public library services shall be ... equal to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount appropriated and expended in the second preceding fiscal year by the city or town from local tax revenues.

Grants for the current year and past three years were:

FY2003	\$5,718,385
FY2002	\$5,404,168
FY2001	\$5,085,640
FY2000	\$4,854,729

29-6-7. State supported institutions.

– For each state supported residential institution and the school for the deaf, the state's share under this program to support library services for residents or students shall be ...equal to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount appropriated and expended in the second preceding fiscal year by the institution, for operating expenditures to support library services for residents or students

Institutional Library (serving as the public library for their residents) grant-in-aid current and three-year history:

FY2003	\$34,250
FY2002	\$34,250
FY2001	\$34,250
FY2000	\$17,125

29-6-9. Rhode Island library network

29-6-9(3)(b)(1)

Grants for the **Statewide Reference Resource Center** at the **Providence Public Library** for the current and past three years were:

FY2003	\$880,110
FY2002	\$880,110
FY2001	\$880,110
FY2000	\$822,484

Public Library Construction Reimbursement Program

The Rhode Island Statewide Library Program was activated July 1, 1964 in response to a heightened interest in statewide library cooperation and federal legislation that became the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA). The construction aspect of the LSCA was considered an intrinsic part of improving library service, and the Rhode Island Public Library Construction Reimbursement Program began in 1965. That year eight library construction projects received a total of \$176,000 in state funds and \$239,000 in federal funds. The state program, which at the time was one of only two state programs providing funds for library construction, was continued in 1966. In 1967 the Rhode Island library law was amended to include construction reimbursement funding over a twenty-year period.

The Public Library Construction Reimbursement Program has expanded considerably over the years, with state aid for library construction projects increasing from \$675,000 in the 1960's to \$15,000,000 in the 1980's. In 1990, the program was put on hiatus as a result of state budget cuts.

Governor Lincoln Almond reinstated the program in 1998. New rules and regulations were developed by the OLIS and the Library Board of Rhode Island (LBRI.) The program currently reimburses up to 50% of the eligible costs of library construction projects, including construction costs up to \$150 per square foot for new construction and \$125 per square foot for renovations. Other eligible costs include architectural and consultant fees, site acquisition costs, furnishings, and equipment. In state fiscal year 2002, the program reimbursed a total of \$2,061,097 to 19 libraries for projects that were completed between 1987 and 2001. Three libraries have recently completed construction projects, and at least 12 projects are planned in the next three years. Since the program began in 1965, over \$31,000,000 in governmental support been committed to construction projects.

Recent state **public library construction reimbursement** grants have been:

FY2003	\$2,242,084
FY2002	\$2,061,097
FY2001	\$2,024,688
FY2000	\$1,580,59